

DRAFT OF PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT OF A MEETING WITH  
CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS (to be given out to the press).

The President stated that

(For some time I have been disturbed by reports that an attempt might be made to subject the Central Intelligence Agency to a type of Congressional investigation which would inevitably disclose

highly classified security matters to potential enemies of the United

The President States. I expressed to the Congressional leaders with whom I consulted

this morning my feeling that if such an investigation were to take place it would result in serious harm to our national security. I made it clear

to the Congressional leaders that I recognized that Congress in the

exercise of its legislative and appropriating functions has a clear right

to the information that is essential to it in its exercise of these duties.

It was made clear

It is my understanding that the Director of Central Intelligence had been in close touch with the Armed Services and Appropriations Committees of the

two Houses of the Congress and that he furnished these Committees such

information as the members thereof have sought. It should be clearly

understood that this relationship should continue and that these Committees

should be kept currently advised of CIA activities within the wise provision

inserted by the Congress in the National Security Act of 1947 "that the

Director of Central Intelligence shall be responsible for protecting

President intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure." It is my

firm conviction that the Executive and the Congress should cooperate in carrying out this legislative mandate.

The President further expressed to the Congressional leaders his view that it was essential that the Congress should be satisfied as to the integrity of the administration of CIA, particularly in connection with the handling of the ~~substantial amount~~ of unvouchered funds intrusted to it as well as ~~to~~ its exercise of the powers and duties conferred upon it under the National Security Act of 1947 and directives of the National Security Council thereunder. ~~Accordingly, the President~~ advised the Congressional leaders of correspondence which he had had with the Director of Central Intelligence and of his decision as indicated in this correspondence and ~~it was requested~~ by the Director of Central Intelligence to set up a Board of Consultants, with duties and functions outlined ~~therein~~. The Congressional leaders present expressed unanimous concurrence in the view that their legislative and investigative functions should be exercised as far as CIA ~~was~~ concerned, in a manner to protect intelligence sources and methods from unauthorised disclosure and welcomed the President's action in setting up a high level Board of Consultants.

By the Congress in '60 for

D R A F T

I am in agreement with the  
conclusions in

Dear Mr. Dulles:

This is with reference to your letter of 7 June suggesting  
the establishment of a Board of Consultants to review the work  
of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Inasmuch as I consider it of paramount importance that  
the Congress and the people of the United States have complete  
confidence in the CIA, I am as of this date constituting such a  
body. Dr. Karl Compton, Mr. Robert Sprague, Ambassador  
David Bruce and General Omar Bradley have consented to serve  
on this Board. You will make available to them any and all  
information that they request concerning the Central Intelligence  
Agency. I have asked them to advise me by not later than  
September 30, 1954 as to the quality and character of the CIA.

Sincerely yours,

Dwight D. Eisenhower

*It is my considered opinion that  
such a procedure would be  
most appropriate and should*

DRAFT OF PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT OF A MEETING

WITH CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS (to be given out to the press.)

The President stated that for some time he had been disturbed by reports that an attempt might be made to subject the Central Intelligence Agency to a type of Congressional investigation which would inevitably disclose highly classified security matters to potential enemies of the United States. The President expressed to the Congressional leaders with whom he consulted this morning his feeling that if such an investigation were to take place it would result in serious harm to our national security. He made it clear to the Congressional leaders that he recognized that Congress in the exercise of its legislative functions has a clear right to the information that is essential to it to carry out this duty. It was made clear that the Director of Central Intelligence had been in close touch with the Armed Services and Appropriations Committees of the two Houses of the Congress and that he had furnished these Committees such information as they had sought. This relationship should continue and these Committees should be kept currently advised of CIA activities within the wise provision included by the Congress in the National Security Act of 1947 "that the Director of Central Intelligence shall be responsible for protecting intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure." It was the President's firm conviction that the Executive and the Congress should cooperate in carrying out this legislative mandate.

The President further expressed to the Congressional leaders his view that it was essential that the Congress should be satisfied as to the integrity of the administration of CIA, particularly in connection with the handling of the unvouchered funds intrusted to it as well as in its exercise of the powers and duties conferred upon it under the National Security Act of 1947 and directives of the National Security Council thereunder.

He advised the Congressional leaders of correspondence which he had had with the Director of Central Intelligence and of his decision as indicated in this correspondence and as requested by the Director of Central Intelligence to set up a Board of Consultants, with duties and functions outlined in that correspondence.

The Congressional leaders present expressed their unanimous concurrence in the view that the legislative and investigative functions should be exercised by the Congress insofar as CIA is concerned, in a manner to protect intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure and they welcomed the President's action in setting up the high level Board of Consultants.

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D R A F T

Dear Mr. Dulles:

I am in agreement with the conclusi

June suggesting that a Board of Consultants be constituted to review and report to me on the work of the Central Intelligence Agency. Such a review, in addition to covering the important objectives you outline, should conform to the following standards. It should supply the Central Intelligence Agency with guidance; it should be so conducted as to assist you as Director in protecting intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure as provided in the National Security Act of 1947; it should assist you in furnishing to the appropriate Committees of Congress such information with respect to the operations of the Agency as they may reasonably require in the exercise of their legislative, appropriative and investigative functions.

At my request, General Omar Bradley, Dr. Karl Compton and Mr. Robert Sprague have consented to serve as ~~the~~ member of the Board of Consultants. You are instructed to make available to them such information as they may require in connection with their review. Other intelligence agencies of the government will be

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instructed to afford the Board like facilities insofar as it may deem this necessary in considering CIA's function in the coordination of the intelligence activities of the government.

It is my desire that the Board should complete its study in time for my consideration before your budget appropriations for FY '55 are submitted to the Congress.

Sincerely,



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

7 June 1954

The President  
The White House

Dear Mr. President:

About five years ago, pursuant to NSC action, a small committee of persons outside government, but familiar with intelligence work, was constituted to review the work of the Central Intelligence Agency. I was Chairman of that Committee, which included Mr. William H. Jackson and Mr. Mathias Correa. The report which we submitted in January 1949 served as the basis for certain organizational changes which my predecessor, General Bedell Smith, put into effect shortly after he became Director of Central Intelligence.

In the five years subsequent to this report there have been basic changes in the world outlook, and in the problems which this Agency faces. The Soviet have nuclear weapons and are making important progress in various scientific and technical fields affecting their over-all strategic situation vis-a-vis the free world. Intelligence targets have changed; intelligence techniques must be altered accordingly.

Under these circumstances, I would welcome it if you felt the time had come to constitute a "Board of Consultants" to review the work of the Agency, its programs, techniques and administrative setup, as well as its progress in carrying out its statutory duties and, in particular, its duty to coordinate and make more effective the intelligence operations of government. Such a study could include a review of our personnel policies and of our methods of controlling the expenditure of the unvouchered funds entrusted to us by the Congress.

It is my belief that reviews of this nature should be carried out at periodic intervals as the National Security Council might determine to be appropriate.

While I might constitute such a board by my own action, I believe that I could only secure the high caliber of men required to carry out this mission if you, yourself, took the initiative in constituting the Board thereby emphasizing the importance you place upon it.

Faithfully yours,

Allen W. Dulles  
Director